# 7 LOWER NEWPORT ROAD, ALDERSHOT, HAMPSHIRE

REPORT ON
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF



**REPORT NO: R123957** 



**MARCH 2016** 

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

# 7 LOWER NEWPORT ROAD, ALDERSHOT, HAMPSHIRE, GU12 4QB ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Issue 1: Issued For Approval

Local Planning Authority: Rushmoor Borough Council

Planning Ref: 13/00360/FUL

NGR: 487899 150096

Site Code: LNRA15

Client: Mr Michael Ashworth

Prepared By: Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (West)

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (West)

Block 4, Chilcomb House, Chilcomb Lane, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8RB

Tel: 01962 849 549 Mob: 07714 134 099

E-mail: pmcculloch@pre-construct.com

Web: www.pre-construct.com

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#### March 2016

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# **DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

# 7 Lower Newport Lane, Aldershot, Hampshire

# **Archaeological Evaluation**

# Report Ref R12395

# **Quality Control**

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K3829
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	S Hubbard		06/03/2016
Graphics Prepared by:	J Simonson		15/03/2016
Graphics			
Checked by:			
Project Manager Sign-off:	P McCulloch	Muller	21/03/2016

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Plate 2: Section of foundation trench, view to south-west.

Plate 3: Section of foundation trench, view to north-east.

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Figure 1: Detailed Site Location

Figure 2: Trench Location

#### 1 ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was appointed by Michael Ashworth to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 7 Lower Newport Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU12 4QB (NGR 487899 150096). The Site is the subject of a development to replace a swimming pool with a new outbuilding. This document provides a report on the watching brief, which was carried out on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.

The watching brief demonstrated that the proposed new footprint lies in modern fill on the site of a former swimming pool. No archaeological deposits or finds were observed. The Site appears to retain no archaeological resource potential.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Michael Ashworth to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 7 Lower Newport Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU12 4QB (Figure 1). The Site is the subject of a development to replace a swimming pool with a new outbuilding. This document provides a report on the watching brief, which was carried out on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.
- 2.1.2 The watching brief was a requirement of Condition 5 of planning permission for the development granted by the Local Planning Authority Rushmoor Borough Council (Planning reference 13/00360/FUL) in July 2013 and was based on the advice of the Council's archaeological advisor Hannah Fluck, Senior Archaeologist, Hampshire County Council.
- 2.1.3 This document provides a report on the watching brief, which comprised the monitoring of groundwork for the proposed development. This included initial clearance of the existing swimming pool, new foundation trenches, and the laying of services.
- 2.1.4 This document has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs (ClfA 2014) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015).

#### 2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.2.1 The Site (NGR 487899 150096) is located to the north of Lower Newport Road, Aldershot and comprises a house and garden within a roughly square plot.
- 2.2.2 The Site lies on the eastern side of the 19<sup>th</sup> century new town of Aldershot, which developed around two military camps. The Site lies in a residential area *c*. 300m west of the Blackwater River. The Site lies at approximately 70m above Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2.3 The Site lies on superficial deposits of sand and gravel, which overlie outcrops of bedrock London Clay and Reading Beds http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html.

#### 2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.3.1 The Site lies in an area of few archaeological monuments, sites and findspots. This is almost certainly because the development of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Aldershot took place before systematic archaeological records were compiled. For antecedents of the modern town, historical records and maps suggest the 12<sup>th</sup> century Church St Michael the Archangel and the later medieval and post-medieval manor that lay 80m north of the Church and now within Aldershot Manor Park, formed a focus of settlement some 750m west of the site.
- 2.3.2 What limited archaeological evidence that has been recorded in Aldershot includes a Mesolithic tranchet axe, finds of medieval 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery from Newport Road and the remains of a post-medieval pottery kiln found in Redan Gardens, some 750m west of the site.

#### 3 AIM

#### 3.1 Archaeological Watching Brief

3.1.1 The aim of the watching brief was to monitor ground work for the proposed development for the presence of archaeological resources, in particular evidence of pottery manufacture, and, if present, investigate and preserve by record the resources, determining, where possible, their character, including their date, nature and extent.

3.1.2 This report aims to provide an account of the watching brief and to be sufficient to demonstrate to the Local Planning Authority that the watching brief was carried out in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation.

#### 4 RESULTS

#### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The following summary is based on the Site archive, comprising written and photographic records. The archive is held at PCA's Winchester office under the site code LNRA15 and will ultimately be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust, Winchester. Images of the watching brief are provided in Appendix 1 Plates 1-3.
- 4.1.2 The watching brief was carried out on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.

#### 4.2 Observation

- 4.2.1 The watching brief monitored the hand excavation of the foundation trench for the proposed new building (**Figure 2**). The depth of the foundation trench ranged from .65m to 1.05m below the existing garden surface.
- 4.2.2 The foundation trench was formed entirely within garden soil, which contained layers of reddish or yellowish sandy deposits. The observed deposits can be attributed to infill of the former swimming pool that was previously located on the proposed new footprint .The observed deposits were all of modern date, as shown by the presence of modern ceramics and brick rubble. All finds were discarded.

#### 4.3 Conclusion

4.3.1 The watching brief demonstrated that the proposed new footprint lies in modern fill on the site of a former swimming pool. No archaeological deposits or finds were observed. The Site appears to retain no archaeological resource potential.

### **5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank Mr. Michael Ashworth for commissioning the watching brief.

The watching brief was conducted by Steven Hubbard, who also prepared this report. The project was managed for PCA by Paul McCulloch.

### **APPENDIX 1: PLATES**



Plate 1: General view to the north-east.



Plate 2: Section of foundation trench, view to south-west.



Plate 3: Section of foundation trench, view to north-east.

#### **APPENDIX 2: OASIS RECORD**

OASIS ID: preconst1-245129

Project details

Project name 7 Lower Newport Road Aldershot Hampshire

Watching brief on new foundations in rear garden of single

Short description of the project

house. Site in the vicinity of documented post-medieval

potteries but no evidence for pottery manufacture, or anything

else, was found in the watching brief.

Project dates Start: 12-10-2015 End: 13-10-2015

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated

project reference

13/00360/FUL - Planning Application No.

codes

Any associated

project reference

LNRA15 - Sitecode

codes

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Monument type NONE None

Monument type NONE None

Significant Finds NONE None

Significant Finds NONE None

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE RUSHMOOR ALDERSHOT 7 Lower

Newport Lane

Postcode GU12 4QB

Study area 100 Square metres

SU 487899 150096 50.9319203546 -1.305631533494 50 55

Site coordinates 54 N 001 18 20 W Point

Lat/Long Datum Unknown

Height OD / Depth Min: 70m Max: 70m

Project creators

Name of

PCA West

Organisation

Project brief Hampshire County Council

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originator

Project design originator

Paul McCulloch

Project

director/manager

Paul McCulloch

Project supervisor

Steven Hubbard

Type of

sponsor/funding

Client

body

Project archives

Physical Archive

No

Exists?

Digital Archive recipient

Hampshire Cultural Trust

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"

Paper Archive

Exists?

No

Paper Archive

recipient

Hampshire Cultural Trust

Paper Media

"Diary", "Notebook - Excavation', 'Research', 'General

available Notes","Report"

Entered by

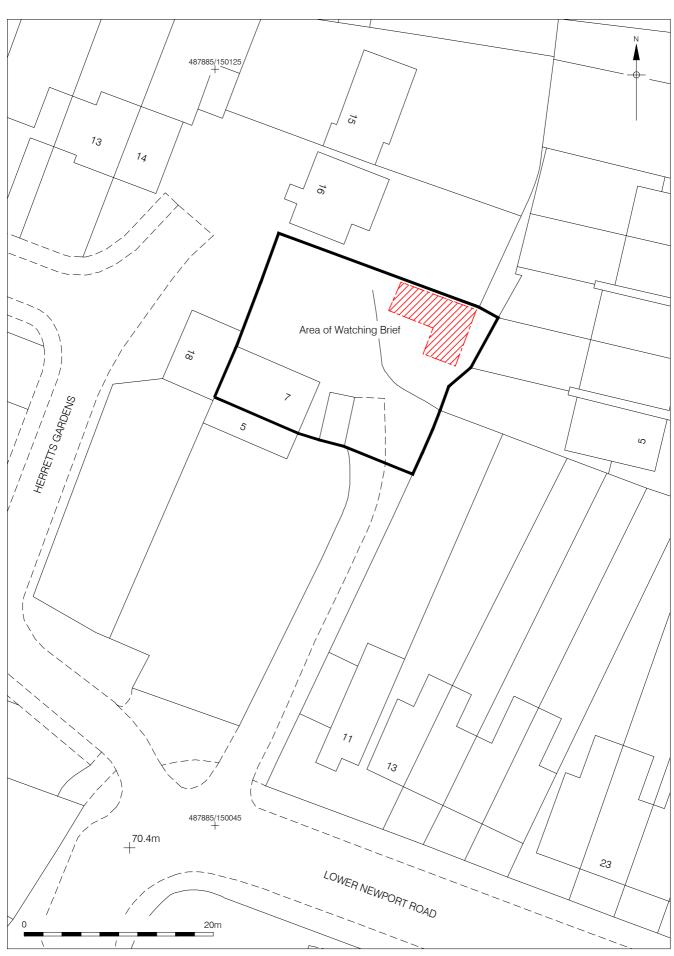
Paul McCulloch (pmcculloch@pre-construct.com)

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# PCA

#### **PCA SOUTH**

UNIT 54

BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE

96 ENDWELL ROAD BROCKLEY

LONDON SE4 2PD

TEL: 020 7732 3925 / 020 7639 9091

FAX: 020 7639 9588

EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

#### **PCA NORTH**

UNIT 19A

TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK

DURHAM DH6 5PG

TEL: 0191 377 1111 FAX: 0191 377 0101

EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

#### **PCA CENTRAL**

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN

TEL: 01223 845 522 FAX: 01223 845 522

EMAIL: info.central@pre-construct.com

#### **PCA WEST**

BLOCK 4
CHILCOMB HOUSE
CHILCOMB LANE
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO23 8RB

TEL: 01962 849 549 EMAIL: info.west@pre-construct.com

#### **PCA MIDLANDS**

17-19 KETTERING RD LITTLE BOWDEN MARKET HARBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 8AN TEL: 01858 468 333

EMAIL: info.midlands@pre-construct.com

